BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0014] **FIG. 1** is a perspective component view of an embodiment of a surgical kit according to the present invention.

[0015] **FIG. 2** is a top plan view of the embodiment shown in **FIG. 1** with the articles placed in their respective recesses.

[0016] **FIG. 3** is a perspective component view of an embodiment of the container according to the invention having been removed from the tray.

[0017] **FIG. 4** is a perspective view of an embodiment of a tray and stored articles, including the container.

[0018] **FIG. 5** is a perspective view of the tray according to **FIG. 4** without the articles contained therein.

[0019] **FIG. 6** is a top plan view of the tray according to **FIG. 5**.

[0020] **FIG. 7** is a side view of the tray according to **FIG. 5**.

[0021] **FIG. 8** is an end view of the tray according to **FIG. 5**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0022] Reference will now be made in detail to embodiments of the invention, one or more examples of which are illustrated in the figures. The embodiments are provided by way of explanation of the invention, and not meant as a limitation of the invention. For example, features illustrated or described as part of one embodiment may be used with another embodiment to yield still a different embodiment. It is intended that the invention include these and other modifications as come within the scope and spirit of the invention.

[0023] An embodiment of a surgical kit is illustrated in the figures as a percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy ("PEG") kit **20**. It should be understood that a PEG kit is illustrated and described herein as merely representative of an embodiment of a surgical kit according to the invention, and that the invention is not limited to a PEG kit or any other particular type of kit. A PEG procedure is utilized to place a feeding tube into a patient that extends from the interior of the patient's stomach exteriorly of the patient. The feeding tube permits nutrients to be placed directly into a patient's stomach. This may be necessary when a patient has a disorder of the gastrointestinal tract, malabsorption (impaired absorption of nutrients, vitamins or minerals from the diet by the lining of the small intestine), or neurological or renal disorders. The feeding tube inserted using a PEG procedure is kept in place until a stoma is formed. Once a stoma is formed, a patient may remove and replace the PEG feeding tube with an alternate feeding device.

[0024] The PEG kit **20** may include a tray **22** having a plurality of planar surfaces and a plurality of recesses that may be disposed within the planar surfaces. The tray **22** may be formed of any suitable material, for example the tray **22** may be molded from a transparent or translucent substantially rigid plastic material (i.e., PETG). The tray **22** may have side walls **23** defining a depth of the tray **22**.

[0025] As described in more detail below, the planar surfaces may be vertically offset within the tray **22**. For example, referring to **FIGS. 1, 5**, and **6**, a plurality of substantially horizontal planar surfaces **64**, **66**, **68**, and **70** are defined in the tray **22**. The planar surfaces may be co-molded with the tray **22**. Each of the planar surfaces is vertically offset within the tray **22** with respect to at least one other planar surface.

[0026] A plurality of recesses adapted to hold articles or implements that are useful in performing the intended surgical procedure are defined in the various planar surfaces **64**, **66**, **68**, and **70**. Each recess may be adapted to hold one or more articles. Examples of recess configurations and respective articles held therein are discussed in greater detail below. The recesses may also include detents, protrusions, or the like to frictionally engage and retain the articles within the respective recesses.

[0027] As seen in **FIG. 1, a** cover **26** may be positioned on the tray **22** and, in some embodiments, may be adhered to a relatively flat peripheral surface **28** of the tray **22**. A corner **30** of the tray **22** may be configured so that the cover **26** is not adhered to the corner **30**. In such an embodiment, a user may grasp the cover **26** that is positioned adjacent to the corner **30** to remove the cover **26** from the tray **22**. The cover may be attached to the tray by any suitable method, including but not limited to adhesives, heat sealing, sonic or thermal welding, solvents, etc. Once all of the articles have been placed into the tray **22** and the cover sealed to the tray, the kit is subjected to ETO gas sterilization.

[0028] A suitable cover material is Tyvek™, a spunbond polyolefin, from DuPont of Wilmington, Del. Any number of other permeable web materials suitable for ETO (ethylene oxide) gas sterilization, such as Kraft paper, may be used as the cover **26**.

[0029] As illustrated generally in the figures, a container **24** is provided with the kit **20**. The container is desirably a substantially rigid structure adapted to fit at least partially within the tray **22**. For example, the container **24** may rest upon the planar surface **64**. Desirably, the container **24** is disposed generally at the top of the tray so that access is provided to the container **24** immediately upon removing the cover **26** from the tray **22**. In this way, the container **24** can be the first item removed from the tray **22** without touching or displacing any of the other articles in the tray **22**. The tray side walls **23** and a bumper wall **126** define a recess or nesting place for the container and engage or retain the container **24** in a precise location within the tray **22**. In one embodiment, the container **24** may be press-fitted into the nesting place. In another embodiment, the container **24** may be loosely received into the nesting place.

[0030] **FIG. 3** illustrates an embodiment of a container **24** that may be used in the present invention. The container **24** may include a substantially rigid lid **34** and a base **36**, the lid **24** and the base **36** being flexibly attached to each other by a hinge **38** (i.e., a living hinge). In some embodiments, the lid **34** and the base **36** may not be attached to each other, or may be attached to each other using alternate configurations. The container may be molded or otherwise formed from the same polymer material as the tray **22**. A lip **40** may be provided that extends around the edges of the lid **34** and the base **36**. In particular embodiments, an extended portion **42** may be disposed along one edge of the lip **40** to enable a user to more easily open the container **24**. One or both of the lips **40** may include a number of bosses **41** extending therefrom.